

PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD'S DECISION

APPELLANT: Carsten Birch
DOCKET NO.: 03-27596.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 18-04-104-023-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Carsten Birch, the appellant, by attorney Rusty A. Payton of the Law Offices of Rusty A. Payton, P.C., Chicago, Illinois; and the Cook County Board of Review.

The subject property consists of a 79-year old, two-story dwelling of stucco construction containing 1,864 square feet of living area with a full, unfinished basement, a fireplace, and a two car garage.

The appellant submitted evidence before the Property Tax Appeal Board claiming unequal treatment in the assessment process as the basis of the appeal. In support of the equity argument, the appellant submitted a grid analysis detailing four suggested comparable properties. The appellant's map indicates one comparable is in close proximity to the subject and three comparables are located one-quarter of a mile from the subject. The comparables are two-story stucco dwellings that are 89 to 115 years old. Two comparables have unfinished basements; one comparable has a partial basement, and one comparable has a full basement. One comparable has central air conditioning and one comparable has a fireplace. Their living areas are from 1,500 to 2,188 square feet in size, and have improvement assessments of \$11.19 to \$11.98 per square foot. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$15.05 per square foot. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" wherein the subject's final assessment was disclosed. In support of the subject's assessment, the board of review offered the property characteristic sheets and a spreadsheet detailing

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Based on the facts and exhibits presented, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds a no change in the assessment of the property as established by the Cook County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND:	\$6,579
IMPR.:	\$28,048
TOTAL:	\$34,627

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

PTAB/CKG

four suggested comparable properties that are located one block from the subject. The comparable properties consist of two-story frame or stucco dwellings that are 79 to 83 years old. One comparable has a full, finished basement and three comparables have full, unfinished basements. One comparable has central air conditioning. Three comparables have fireplaces. Three comparables have two car garages and one comparable has a one car garage. The dwellings contain 1,456 to 1,488 square feet of living area and have improvement assessments ranging from \$15.50 to \$18.12 per square foot of living area. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

After reviewing the record and considering the evidence, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this appeal. The Property Tax Appeal Board further finds that a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted. The appellant's argument was unequal treatment in the assessment process. The Illinois Supreme Court has held that taxpayers who object to an assessment on the basis of lack of uniformity bear the burden of proving the disparity of assessment valuations by clear and convincing evidence. Kankakee County Board of Review v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 131 Ill.2d 1 (1989). The evidence must demonstrate a consistent pattern of assessment inequities within the assessment jurisdiction. After an analysis of the assessment data, the Board finds the appellant has not overcome this burden.

Both parties presented assessment data on a total of eight equity comparables. The appellant's comparables were significantly older than the subject. Three comparables were located one-quarter of a mile from the subject. As a result, they received reduced weight in the Board's analysis. The board of review's comparables were more similar to the subject in location, age, and physical characteristics and had improvement assessments of \$15.50 to \$18.12 per square foot and support the subject's improvement assessment of \$15.05 per square foot. After considering adjustments and the differences in both parties' suggested comparables when compared to the subject property, the Board finds the subject's per square foot improvement assessment is supported by the most comparable properties contained in the record and a reduction in the subject's assessment is not warranted.

As a result of this analysis, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds the appellant has not adequately demonstrated that the subject dwelling was inequitably assessed by clear and convincing evidence and a reduction is not warranted.

This is a final administrative decision of the Property Tax Appeal Board are subject to review in the Circuit Court or Appellate Court under the provisions of the Administrative Review Law (735 ILCS 5/3-101 et seq.) and section 16-195 of the Property Tax Code.



Chairman



Member



Member



Member



Member

DISSENTING: _____

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

As Clerk of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board and the keeper of the Records thereof, I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, full and complete Final Administrative Decision of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board issued this date in the above entitled appeal, now of record in this said office.

Date: September 28, 2007



Clerk of the Property Tax Appeal Board

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code provides in part:

"If the Property Tax Appeal Board renders a decision lowering the assessment of a particular parcel after the deadline for filing

complaints with the Board of Review or after adjournment of the session of the Board of Review at which assessments for the subsequent year are being considered, the taxpayer may, within 30 days after the date of written notice of the Property Tax Appeal Board's decision, appeal the assessment for the subsequent year directly to the Property Tax Appeal Board."

In order to comply with the above provision, YOU MUST FILE A PETITION AND EVIDENCE WITH THE PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE ENCLOSED DECISION IN ORDER TO APPEAL THE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPERTY FOR THE SUBSEQUENT YEAR.

Based upon the issuance of a lowered assessment by the Property Tax Appeal Board, the refund of paid property taxes is the responsibility of your County Treasurer. Please contact that office with any questions you may have regarding the refund of paid property taxes.